STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES Before the Commissioner of Financial and Insurance Services

In the matter of:

TG Group LLC 3979 Meadowbrook, Suite 100 Troy, Michigan 48084

Enforcement Case No. 04-2815

Xianghua Chen, President Zhenfang Xue, Vice President

Respondent

Issued and entered this 5th day of August, 2004 by Linda A. Watters Commissioner of Financial and Insurance Services

CONSENT ORDER

I BACKGROUND

TG Group LLC ("TG Group") is a Michigan-domiciled limited liability company that has made application for licensure as a mortgage broker under the Mortgage Brokers, Lenders, and Servicers Licensing Act ("MBLSLA"), Act No. 173 of 1987, as amended, MCL 445.1651 *et seq.* and registration as a mortgage broker under the Secondary Mortgage Loan Act ("SMLA"), Act No. 125 of 1981, as amended, MCL 493.51 *et seq.* Xianghua Chen is 90% owner of TG Group. Zhenfang Xue is 10% owner of TG Group. Respondent is not licensed by the Office of Financial and Insurance Services ("OFIS") pursuant to the MBLSLA or any other consumer

finance statute regulated by OFIS. In reviewing TG Group's application, OFIS staff determined that Respondent was already conducting mortgage-related activities which require licensure as a mortgage broker under the MBLSLA. Respondent and OFIS staff have conferred and have agreed to resolve this matter according to the terms set forth below.

II FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. During the investigation of Respondent's first mortgage license application, it was determined respondent had commenced mortgage broker operations on May 26, 2003 as a "netbranch" of XXX.
- 2. Respondent submitted an IRS Form 1099 evidencing nonemployee compensation in the amount of \$73,486.31 paid by XXX to Respondent during 2003.
- 3. Respondent violated the MBLSLA by conducting first lien mortgage business activity without first obtaining the requisite license certificate required under Section 2(1) of the MBLSLA, and receiving compensation for said activity in violation of Section 2(3) of the MBLSLA.
 - 4. Section 2(1) of the MBLSLA, MCL 445.1652(1), provides:

A person shall not act as a mortgage broker, mortgage lender, or mortgage servicer without first obtaining a license or registering under this act, unless 1 or more of the following apply:

- (a) The person is solely performing services as an employee of only 1 mortgage broker, mortgage lender, or mortgage servicer.
- (b) The person is exempted from the act under section 25.
- (c) The person is licensed as a class I licensee under the consumer financial services act, 1988 PA 161, MCL 487.2051 to 487.2072.
- 5. Section 2(3) of the MBLSLA, MCL 445.1652(3), provides:

Unless a residential mortgage originator is otherwise licensed or registered under this act, a residential mortgage originator shall not receive directly or indirectly any compensation, commission, fee, points, or other remuneration or benefits from a mortgage broker, mortgage lender, or mortgage servicer other than the employer of the residential mortgage originator.

III APPLICABLE LAW AND PENALTIES

The foregoing findings of fact indicate that a violation of the MBLSLA has occurred.

Accordingly, it is recommended that appropriate civil and administrative penalties be imposed on Respondent pursuant to the powers vested in the commissioner under the MBLSLA.

The following provisions are relevant and applicable to this case:

Section 11 of the MBLSLA, MCL 445.1661, provides:

- (1) The commissioner shall exercise general supervision and control over mortgage brokers, mortgage lenders, and mortgage servicers doing business in this state.
- (2) In addition to the other powers granted to the commissioner by this act, the commissioner shall have all of the following powers:
- (a) To promulgate reasonable rules under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, as necessary to implement and administer this act.
- (b) To deny an application for a license.
- (c) To conduct examinations and investigations of any person as necessary for the efficient enforcement of this act and the rules promulgated under this act.
- (d) To advise the attorney general or the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the business is conducted that the commissioner believes a licensee, registrant, or person is violating this act. The attorney general or prosecuting attorney may take appropriate legal action to enjoin the operation of the business or prosecute violations of this act.
- (e) To bring an action in the Ingham county circuit court in the name and on behalf of this state against the licensee, registrant, or any other person who is participating in, or about to participate in, any unsafe or injurious practice or act in violation of this act or a rule promulgated under this act, to enjoin the person from participating in or continuing the practice or engaging in the act.
- (f) To order a person to cease and desist from a violation of this act or a rule promulgated under this act in accordance with section 16.
- (g) To suspend or revoke a license or registration in accordance with section 29.
- (h) To require that restitution be made in accordance with section 29.
- (i) To assess a civil fine in accordance with section 29.
- (i) To censure a licensee or registrant.

(k) To issue an order to prohibit a person from being employed by, an agent of, or control person of a licensee or registrant as provided under section 18a.

Section 29 of the MBLSLA, MCL 445.1679, provides, in pertinent part:

- (2) If the commissioner finds that a licensee or registrant has violated this act or the rules promulgated under this act, the commissioner may do 1 or more of the following:
- (a) Assess a civil fine against the licensee, registrant, or a person who controls the licensee or registrant of not more than \$1,000.00 for each violation, except that the licensee, registrant, or a person shall not be fined more than \$10,000.00 for a transaction resulting in more than 1 violation, plus the costs of investigation.
- (b) Suspend or revoke a license or registration or refuse to issue a license or renew a license or registration.
- (c) Require the licensee or registrant or a person who controls the licensee or registrant to make restitution to each injured individual, if the commissioner finds that the violation of this act or a rule promulgated under this act resulted in an injury to 1 or more individuals.
- (3) A civil fine assessed under subsection (2) may be sued for and recovered by and in the name of the commissioner and may be collected and enforced by summary proceedings by the attorney general. Each individual injured by a violation of this act or a rule shall constitute a separate violation. In determining under subsection (2) the amount of a fine, whether to suspend or revoke a license or registration, whether to refuse to issue or renew a license, or the amount of restitution, the commissioner shall consider the extent to which the violation was a knowing and willful violation, the extent of the injury suffered because of the violation, the corrective action taken by the licensee or registrant to ensure that the violation will not be repeated, and the record of the licensee or registrant in complying with this act. Any proceedings under this subsection shall be subject to the procedures of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

 (4) Subsection (2) does not apply to a violation of this act that results from a bona fide error that occurs notwithstanding the adoption and observance of reasonable procedures intended to prevent the occurrence of the error.

III ORDER

It is ORDERED that:

- Respondent shall cease and desist violating sections 2(1) and 2(3) of the
 MBLSLA.
- 2. Respondent shall pay to the Office of Financial and Insurance Services an applicable civil penalty of \$1,000.00.
- 3. Respondent shall maintain a program to monitor and ensure compliance with all state and federal consumer laws and regulations relating to all mortgage activity conducted by Respondent.
- Respondent shall educate itself and all employees of Respondent with respect to all state and federal consumer laws and regulations, including the Mortgage Brokers, Lenders, and Servicers Licensing Act.
- Respondent shall review and comply with Consumer Finance Bulletin
 2003-09 regarding the agency's position concerning net-branching, employee status, and licensing.
- 6. Respondent shall designate a compliance officer, and notify the Office of Financial and Insurance Services of the compliance officer's name and business address, to ensure that Respondent is in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws. Respondent shall notify the Office of Financial and Insurance Services of any change in designation of the compliance officer within 30 days of such re-designation.

The Commissioner retains jurisdiction over the matters contained herein and has the authority to issue such further order(s) as she shall deem just, necessary and appropriate in accordance with the

provisions of the MBLSLA. Failure by Respondent to abide by the terms and provisions of this Order may result in the commencement of additional proceedings.

Linda A. Watters

Commissioner of Financial and Insurance Services

Lina G. Watter